

## SENATE BILL No. 655

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### DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 20-1; IC 20-8.1-3-18; IC 20-10.1-4.1; IC 20-10.1-16-6; IC 20-10.1-26-4.

**Synopsis:** School accountability. Provides that a school may be accredited by meeting the criteria for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award for Education rather than under performance based accreditation. Establishes the education roundtable as a permanent advisory body and working group to make recommendations to the Indiana state board of education on a variety of subjects. Transfers the duties of the state standards task force to the education roundtable. Adds additional benchmarks and indicators of performance to the school corporation annual performance report. Establishes a school accountability program for targeted and continuous school improvement. Requires each school and school  
(Continued next page)

**Effective:** July 1, 1999; July 1, 2001.

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**Rogers**

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January 22, 1999, read first time and referred to Committee on Rules and Legislative Procedures.

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corporation to develop an annual strategic and continuous school improvement plan. Requires the department of education to use a school corporation's annual performance report to assess the improvement of each school in the school corporation. Requires the Indiana state board of education to develop categories of school improvement and place each school in a category. Provides a series of interventions for schools that do not show improvement based on the number of years that improvement is not demonstrated. Provides for creation of a system of recognition and financial awards for schools that demonstrate improvement. Requires the Indiana state board of education to obtain an independent evaluation of all state education programs and policies that includes recommendations for improvement or restructuring. Repeals the state standards task force law. Repeals a statute under the performance based accreditation law that requires the development of a level of expected performance for each school in light of the school's socioeconomic factors. Appropriates money to the department of education for staff training and to the Indiana state board of education for operational expenses of the board and the education roundtable.

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First Regular Session 111th General Assembly (1999)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 1998 General Assembly.

## SENATE BILL No. 655

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning education and to make an appropriation.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1 SECTION 1. IC 20-1-1.2-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
2 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: Sec. 2. (a) **A school in**  
3 **Indiana may be accredited:**

4 (1) **under the performance based accreditation system**  
5 **established by this chapter; or**

6 (2) **by meeting the criteria for the Malcolm Baldrige**  
7 **National Quality Award for Education.**

8 (b) The board shall establish **the following:**

9 (1) A performance-based accreditation system for **accrediting**  
10 schools in Indiana under this chapter. ~~The accreditation system~~  
11 ~~adopted under this chapter must be the only accreditation system~~  
12 ~~authorized by the board.~~

13 (2) **A procedure for determining whether a school meets the**  
14 **criteria for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award**  
15 **for Education.**



~~(b)~~ (c) The department shall establish a schedule for accrediting schools under this chapter.

SECTION 2. IC 20-1-1.2-7 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: Sec. 7. ~~(a)~~ The department shall

~~(1)~~ review the information submitted under section 6 of this chapter relative to the socioeconomic factors of and resources available to that particular school under section 5 of this chapter; and

~~(2)~~ determine whether the school has complied with the following legal standards for accreditation:

~~(A)~~ (1) Health and safety requirements.

~~(B)~~ (2) Minimum time requirements for school activity.

~~(C)~~ (3) Staff-student ratio requirements.

~~(D)~~ (4) Curriculum offerings.

~~(E)~~ (5) Development and implementation of a staff evaluation plan under IC 20-6.1-9.

~~(F)~~ (6) Development and implementation of a beginning teacher internship program under IC 20-6.1-8.

~~(G)~~ (7) Completion of a school improvement plan that:

~~(i)~~ (A) analyzes the strengths and weaknesses of the school;

~~(ii)~~ (B) outlines goals of the school community to which school improvement activities will be directed; and

~~(iii)~~ (C) identifies objectives of the school and programs designed to achieve those objectives.

~~(b)~~ In no event may the objectives identified under subsection ~~(a)(2)(G)(iii)~~ be less than the level of performance expected for that school under section 5 of this chapter.

SECTION 3. IC 20-1-1.2-8 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: Sec. 8. (a) If the department determines that:

(1) a school has complied with all of the legal standards under ~~section 7(a)(2)~~ **section 7** of this chapter; and

(2) the school's performance has met the expectations for that school in the areas described in section 6 of this chapter;

the board shall make a determination that the school has acquired full accreditation status.

(b) The next review under this chapter of a school described under subsection (a) shall be conducted no later than five (5) years after the board's determination of full accreditation.

SECTION 4. IC 20-1-1.2-9 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: Sec. 9. (a) If the department



verifies that:

(1) a school has not complied with all of the legal standards under ~~section 7(a)(2)~~ **section 7** of this chapter; or

(2) the school's performance has not met the expectations for that school in the areas described in section 6 of this chapter; a review panel of at least three (3) members shall conduct an onsite evaluation of that school in order to make a recommendation to the board as to the accreditation status of that school.

(b) The department may not publish or otherwise make available for public inspection any information concerning a school's compliance with legal standards under ~~section 7(a)(2)~~ **section 7** of this chapter, the meeting of performance expectations under section 6 of this chapter, the assignment of an onsite review panel under section 9 of this chapter, or the recommended accreditation status of the school until all onsite reviews have taken place and recommendations to the board concerning the accreditation status of schools have been made.

SECTION 5. IC 20-1-1.2-11 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: Sec. 11. (a) During its on-site evaluation, a review panel shall review the following for a school:

(1) Teaching practices and administrative leadership in instruction.

(2) Parental and community involvement.

(3) Implementation of the ISTEP remediation program under IC 20-10.1-17 and the educational opportunity program for at-risk children.

(4) The homework policy.

(b) In addition to its review under subsection (a), the review panel shall verify compliance with the legal standards for accreditation set out in ~~section 7(a)(2)~~ **section 7** of this chapter.

SECTION 6. IC 20-1-20.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]:

**Chapter 20.5. Education Roundtable**

**Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "board" has the meaning set forth in IC 20-10.1-17.**

**Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "roundtable" refers to the education roundtable established by section 3 of this chapter.**

**Sec. 3. The education roundtable is established.**

**Sec. 4. The roundtable shall have the following members:**

(1) **The following appointed jointly by the governor and the superintendent of public instruction:**



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- 1 (A) Two (2) parents of school students.
- 2 (B) Two (2) members of the Indiana state board of
- 3 education.
- 4 (C) One (1) representative of the following education
- 5 related organizations:
- 6 (i) The Indiana Association of Public School
- 7 Superintendents.
- 8 (ii) The Indiana Association of School Principals.
- 9 (iii) The Indiana Federation of Teachers.
- 10 (iv) The Indiana Nonpublic Education Association.
- 11 (v) The Indiana School Boards Association.
- 12 (vi) The Indiana State Teachers Association.
- 13 (vii) The Indiana Urban Schools Association.
- 14 (D) Two (2) representatives of higher education.
- 15 (E) One (1) representative of the Indiana Chamber of
- 16 Commerce.
- 17 (F) One (1) representative of the Indiana Manufacturers
- 18 Association.
- 19 (G) Two (2) representatives of different statewide business
- 20 associations other than the associations listed in clauses (E)
- 21 and (F).
- 22 (H) Any number of persons having an interest in education
- 23 other than the persons listed in clauses (A) through (G).
- 24 (2) The superintendent of public instruction or the
- 25 superintendent's designee.
- 26 (3) One (1) person appointed by the superintendent of public
- 27 instruction in addition to a person designated under
- 28 subdivision (2).
- 29 (4) Two (2) persons appointed by the governor.
- 30 (5) Four (4) legislative members appointed as follows:
- 31 (A) One (1) member of the senate appointed by the
- 32 president pro tempore of the senate.
- 33 (B) One (1) member of the senate appointed by the
- 34 minority leader of the senate.
- 35 (C) One (1) member of the house of representatives
- 36 appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.
- 37 (D) One (1) member of the house of representatives
- 38 appointed by the minority leader of the house of
- 39 representatives.
- 40 **Sec. 5. (a) Each member of the roundtable who is not a state**
- 41 **employee is not entitled to the minimum salary per diem provided**
- 42 **by IC 4-10-11-2.1(b). The member is, however, entitled to**



1 reimbursement for traveling expenses and other expenses actually  
 2 incurred in connection with the member's duties, as provided in the  
 3 state travel policies and procedures established by the Indiana  
 4 department of administration and approved by the budget agency.

5 (b) Each member of the roundtable who is a state employee is  
 6 entitled to reimbursement for traveling expenses and other  
 7 expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's duties,  
 8 as provided in the state travel policies and procedures established  
 9 by the Indiana department of administration and approved by the  
 10 budget agency.

11 Sec. 6. The governor or the governor's designee and the  
 12 superintendent of public instruction shall jointly serve as  
 13 cochairpersons of the roundtable. The roundtable shall meet upon  
 14 the call of the cochairpersons.

15 Sec. 7. The roundtable is a permanent advisory body and  
 16 working group to provide recommendations to the board on the  
 17 following subjects:

18 (1) Strengthening the school accountability program so that  
 19 the accountability program is aligned with and reflects the  
 20 goals of the state's standards and assessment programs.

21 (2) The ISTEP program in accordance with sections 8 and 9  
 22 of this chapter.

23 (3) Other pertinent issues relative to the standards,  
 24 assessment, and accountability programs.

25 (4) Steps that may be taken to create a more positive  
 26 environment for business and education groups to work  
 27 collaboratively and cooperatively in strengthening Indiana's  
 28 educational system.

29 (5) Other duties assigned by statute.

30 (6) Other issues as requested by the board, the governor, or  
 31 the superintendent of public instruction.

32 Sec. 8. (a) The roundtable shall review and recommend to the  
 33 board for the board's approval the following:

34 (1) The educational proficiency statements and standards  
 35 under IC 20-10.1-16.

36 (2) The content and format of the ISTEP program, including  
 37 the graduation examination, under IC 20-10.1-16, and the  
 38 passing scores required at various grade levels.

39 (3) Steps that can be taken to implement a quality focused  
 40 approach to school improvement such as the criteria for the  
 41 Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award for Education.

42 (b) In making recommendations under subsection (a), the

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roundtable:

(1) shall consider:

- (A) a variety of available national assessments and tests;
- (B) the development of an assessment or test unique to Indiana; and
- (C) any combination of assessments or tests described under clauses (A) and (B); and

(2) is required to recommend to the board only state tests that when appropriate:

- (A) present the content of each test in an interdisciplinary manner; and
- (B) provide each student with the opportunity to meet the educational proficiency standards in an applied manner.

Sec. 9. The roundtable shall examine and make recommendations to the board for improving the educational proficiency statements and standards under IC 20-10.1-16. The examination may include conducting a stakeholder's survey of goals, expectations, and important skill needs.

Sec. 10. The board may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to implement this chapter.

SECTION 7. IC 20-1-21-7 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2001]: Sec. 7. A report must contain the following:

- (1) The benchmarks **and indicators of performance** listed in section 9 of this chapter for each of the preceding three (3) years.
- (2) Additional components determined under section 8(4) of this chapter.
- (3) A comparison of the benchmarks described in section 9(1) through 9(3) of this chapter to performance based accreditation goals developed under IC 20-1-1.2.
- (4) Additional information or explanation that the governing body wishes to include, **including results of assessments of students under programs other than the ISTEP program that a school corporation uses to determine if students are meeting or exceeding state proficiency standards in grades that are not tested under the ISTEP program.**

SECTION 8. IC 20-1-21-8 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2001]: Sec. 8. The state superintendent and the Indiana state board of education, in consultation with school corporations, educational organizations, ~~and~~ appropriate state agencies, **and other organizations and individuals having an interest in education**, shall develop and periodically revise the





following for the benchmarks **and indicators of performance** under section 9 of this chapter and the additional components of the performance report:

(1) Reporting procedures, including the following:

(A) A determination of the information that a school corporation must compile and the information that the department must compile.

(B) A determination of the information required on a school by school basis and the information required on a school corporation basis.

(C) A common format suitable for publication, including tables, graphics, and explanatory text.

(2) Operational definitions.

(3) Standards for implementation.

(4) Additional components for the report that may be benchmarks, **indicators of performance**, or other information.

(5) Targets identified in performance based accreditation goals developed under IC 20-1-1.2 for certain benchmarks and a reporting system that measures schools and school corporations against the targets.

SECTION 9. IC 20-1-21-9 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2001]: Sec. 9. The report must include the following benchmarks **or indicators of performance**:

(1) Graduation rate.

(2) Attendance rate.

(3) ISTEP test scores, or for a freeway school scores on a locally adopted assessment program, if appropriate, including the number and percentage of students:

(A) meeting an advanced standard; or

(B) meeting a proficient standard.

(4) Actual class size.

(5) The number and percentage of students in the following groups or programs:

(A) At risk.

(B) Vocational education.

(C) Special education.

(D) Gifted or talented.

(E) Remediation/preventative remediation.

**(F) Alternative education, by type of alternative education program.**

(6) Advanced placement, including the following:

(A) For advanced placement tests, the number and percentage



of students:

- (i) scoring three (3), four (4), and (5); or
- (ii) participating.

(B) For the Scholastic Aptitude Test, the number and percentage of students:

- (i) above a designated proficient score;
- (ii) above a designated advanced score; or
- (iii) participating.

(7) Course completion, including the number and percentage of students completing the following programs:

- (A) Academic honors diploma.
- (B) Core 40 curriculum.
- (C) Vocational programs.

(8) The percentage of graduates who pursue higher education.

(9) School safety, including the number and percentage of students receiving suspension or expulsion for the possession of alcohol, drugs, or weapons.

(10) Financial information relevant to performance.

**(11) Technology accessibility and utilization of technology in instruction.**

**(12) Staff professional development, including the type and extent of opportunities available.**

**(13) Student mobility rates.**

**(14) Number and types of partnerships with the community, business, or higher education.**

**(15) Various school cost factors.**

**(16) Teacher licensing, certification, and preparation.**

**(17) Percent of grade 3 students reading at or above grade 3 level.**

**(18) Other indicators of performance as recommended by the education roundtable (IC 20-1-20.5-3).**

SECTION 10. IC 20-1-21-10 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: Sec. 10. (a) The department shall annually produce and distribute in paper and electronic formats a compiled report that includes the reports of all school corporations.

**(b) The department and governing bodies of school corporations shall encourage local businesses to assist school corporations to publish the annual performance report as a special publication or as a newspaper supplement.**

SECTION 11. IC 20-1-22 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2001]:



**Chapter 22. School Accountability Program for Targeted and Continuous School Improvement**

**Sec. 1. The provisions in this chapter concerning schools apply only to the following:**

**(1) Public schools.**

**(2) Nonpublic schools that voluntarily become accredited under IC 20-1-1-6.**

**Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "annual plan" refers to an annual strategic and continuous school improvement plan established under this chapter for a school or a school corporation.**

**Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "annual report" refers to the school corporation annual performance report required by IC 20-1-21-3.**

**Sec. 4. As used in this chapter, "board" has the meaning set forth in IC 20-10.1-1-17.**

**Sec. 5. As used in this chapter, "category" refers to a category of school improvement established under section 18 of this chapter.**

**Sec. 6. As used in this chapter, "department" has the meaning set forth in IC 20-10.1-1-18.**

**Sec. 7. As used in this chapter, "education roundtable" refers to the education roundtable established by IC 20-1-20.5-3.**

**Sec. 8. As used in this chapter, "governing body" has the meaning set forth in IC 20-10.1-1-5.**

**Sec. 9. As used in this chapter, "nonpublic school" has the meaning set forth in IC 20-10.1-1-3.**

**Sec. 10. As used in this chapter, "parent" has the meaning set forth in IC 20-10.1-1-9.**

**Sec. 11. As used in this chapter, "public school" has the meaning set forth in IC 20-10.1-1-2.**

**Sec. 12. As used in this chapter, "school" refers to a public or an accredited nonpublic school.**

**Sec. 13. As used in this chapter, "school corporation" has the meaning set forth in IC 20-10.1-1-1.**

**Sec. 14. The principal of each school must develop an annual strategic and continuous school improvement plan that meets the following requirements:**

**(1) Is developed after opportunity for input and comment from parents, teachers, students, and the community where the school is located.**

**(2) Contains a strategy for the school to make progress on all benchmarks and indicators of performance required by the school corporation annual performance report.**



(3) Specifies how and to what extent the school expects to make continuous improvement in all areas of the education system where results are measured by setting benchmarks for progress on an individual school basis.

(4) Notes specific areas where improvement is needed immediately.

**Sec. 15. The governing body shall do the following:**

(1) Review, revise, and approve the annual plan of each school in the school corporation.

(2) Develop an annual strategic and continuous improvement plan for the school corporation that includes an annual plan for each school in the school corporation that meets the requirements of section 14 of this chapter.

(3) Submit the annual plan for the school corporation to the board by a date that the board specifies.

(4) Request in the annual plan of the school corporation waivers from the board from rules cited in the plan that the governing body considers to be a barrier or a hindrance to school improvement other than a rule concerning the following subjects:

(A) The requirement of one hundred eighty (180) student instructional days in a school year under IC 20-10.1-2-1-(c).

(B) Special education.

(C) Collective bargaining.

The governing body may request a waiver for a school or for the entire school corporation.

**Sec. 16. The board:**

(1) shall review the annual plan for each school corporation; and

(2) may grant a waiver of any rule for which a waiver is requested in a school corporation's annual plan other than a waiver of a statute or rule concerning a subject listed in section 15(4) of this chapter.

**Sec. 17. (a)** The department shall use the benchmarks and indicators of performance in each school corporation's annual performance report to assess the improvement of each school and school corporation.

**(b)** The department shall assess improvement in the following manner:

(1) Compare each school and each school corporation to its own prior performance and not to the performance of other



schools or school corporations.

(2) Compare the actual results in the annual report with the benchmarks and indicators of performance established in the annual plan for the same school.

(3) Compare the results for substantially the same students by comparing the results for each grade with the prior year results for one (1) grade lower, with an adjustment for student mobility rate.

Sec. 18. The board shall establish a number of categories of school improvement based on the improvement that a school makes in performance on a number of measures determined by the board with the advice of the education roundtable. The categories must reflect various levels of improvement.

Sec. 19. The board shall place each school in a category of school improvement based upon the department's findings from the assessment of the improvement of each school under section 17 of this chapter. The board must place those schools that do not show improvement in the lowest category.

Sec. 20. (a) This section applies the first year that a school is placed in the lowest category of school improvement.

(b) The superintendent of the school corporation where the school is located must convene a school advisory council consisting of the following members:

(1) Representatives of parents of students in the school.

(2) Representatives of community and business leaders from the community where the school is located.

(3) One (1) or more members of the governing body of the school corporation where the school is located.

(4) The superintendent.

(5) The school principal.

(6) Representatives of the teachers in the school.

(c) The school advisory council shall develop the school's next annual plan. The advisory council may request specific resources or technical assistance in the annual plan.

Sec. 21. (a) This section applies if in the third year after initial placement in the lowest category, a school still remains in the lowest category.

(b) The board shall establish and assign an expert team to the school. The expert team:

(1) must include the following from school corporations that are in high categories:

(A) School superintendents.



(B) Members of governing bodies.

(C) Teachers; and

(2) may include special consultants or advisers.

(c) The expert team shall:

(1) assist the school in developing the school's next annual plan; and

(2) recommend changes in the school that will promote improvement.

Sec. 22. (a) This section applies if in the fifth year after initial placement in the lowest category, a school still remains in the lowest category.

(b) The board shall do the following:

(1) Hold at least one (1) public hearing in the school corporation where the school is located to consider and hear testimony concerning the following options for school improvement:

(A) Merging the school with a nearby school that is in a higher category.

(B) Assigning a special management team to operate all or part of the school.

(C) The education roundtable's recommendations for improving the school.

(D) Other options for school improvement expressed at the public hearing, including closing the school.

(2) If the board determines that intervention will improve the school, implement one (1) or more of the options listed in subdivision (1).

Sec. 23. The board shall develop and implement a system of recognition and financial awards to reward those schools that move from one category of improvement to a higher category of improvement.

Sec. 24. The board may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to implement this chapter.

SECTION 12. IC 20-8.1-3-18 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: Sec. 18. (a) Service as a page for or as an honoree of the Indiana general assembly constitutes a lawful excuse for a pupil to be absent from school. For each day of page service or as an honoree of the Indiana general assembly, verified by the certificate of the secretary of the senate or the chief clerk of the house of representatives, a student excused from school attendance under this subsection shall not be recorded as being absent on any date for which the excuse is operative, nor shall the student be penalized by



the school in any manner. This section applies to all pupils, whether they attend public, private, or parochial schools.

(b) The governing body of each school corporation and the chief administrative official of each private secondary school system shall authorize the absence and excuse of each secondary school student who serves on the precinct election board or as a helper to a political candidate or to a political party on the date of each general, city or town, special, and primary election at which the student works. Prior to the date of the election, the student must submit a document signed by one (1) of the student's parents or guardians giving permission to participate in the election as provided in this section, and the student must verify to school authorities the performance of services by submitting a document signed by the candidate, political party chairman, campaign manager, or precinct officer. The document must describe generally the duties of the student on the date of the election. A student excused from school attendance under this subsection shall not be recorded as being absent on any date for which the excuse is operative, nor shall the student be penalized by the school in any manner.

(c) The governing body of each school corporation or the chief administrative officer of each private school system shall authorize the absence and excuse of a student who is issued a subpoena to appear in court as a witness in a judicial proceeding. A student excused under this subsection shall not be recorded as being absent on any date for which the excuse is operative, nor shall the student be penalized by the school in any manner. The appropriate school authority may require that the student submit the subpoena to the appropriate school authority for verification.

(d) The governing body of each school corporation or the chief administrative officer of each private school system shall authorize the absence and excuse of each secondary school student who is ordered to active duty with the Indiana National Guard for not more than ten (10) days in a school year. For verification, the student must submit to school authorities a copy of the orders to active duty and a copy of the orders releasing the student from active duty. A student excused from school attendance under this subsection shall not be recorded as being absent on any date for which the excuse is operative, nor shall the student be penalized by the school in any manner.

(e) The governing body of a school corporation or the chief administrative officer of a private school system shall authorize the absence and excuse of a secondary school student who is appointed jointly by the governor and the superintendent of public instruction to



1 serve as a member of the state standards task force under  
 2 IC 20-10.1-4.1-2 when attendance at a state standards task force  
 3 meeting conflicts in whole or in part with a student instructional day.  
 4 An excused absence under this subsection is only valid for the time:

- 5 (1) of the actual state standards task force meeting; and
- 6 (2) the student is in transit to and from the meeting.

7 For verification, the student must submit to school authorities a  
 8 document signed by the chairman of the state standards task force  
 9 verifying the attendance by the student at the state standards task force  
 10 meeting. The document must indicate the times at which the student  
 11 was required to be in attendance at the state standards task force  
 12 meeting. A student excused from school attendance under this  
 13 subsection shall not be recorded as being absent on any date covered  
 14 by the excuse and the student shall not be penalized by the school in  
 15 any manner.

16 SECTION 13. IC 20-10.1-16-6 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 17 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: Sec. 6. (a) The department  
 18 shall develop educational proficiency statements for the following  
 19 subject areas:

- 20 (1) English/language arts.
- 21 (2) Mathematics.
- 22 (3) Social studies.
- 23 (4) Science.
- 24 (5) Other subject areas as determined by the department.

25 (b) The department shall revise and update the educational  
 26 proficiency statements in each subject area listed in subsection (a) at  
 27 least once every six (6) years. This revision must occur on a cyclical  
 28 basis that coincides with the textbook adoption cycle established in  
 29 IC 20-10.1-9-4.

30 (c) The state superintendent shall appoint a proficiency statements  
 31 overview committee for a subject area during the period when the  
 32 subject area is undergoing revision. A proficiency statements overview  
 33 committee has fifteen (15) members selected as follows:

- 34 (1) Eight (8) persons who are teachers practicing in the subject  
 35 area being revised on the date of appointment.
- 36 (2) Two (2) members who are parents of school age children.
- 37 (3) Two (2) members, each of whom is a school superintendent,  
 38 a school corporation curriculum director, or a principal.
- 39 (4) Two (2) members who represent the business community.
- 40 (5) One (1) member who is a member of the faculty in the subject  
 41 area being revised at an institution of higher education that  
 42 prepares teachers in the subject area.





(d) A proficiency statements overview committee shall do the following:

(1) Advise the department on the revision process under this section.

(2) Recommend changes to the educational proficiency statement for the committee's subject area that enhance the goals identified in the educational proficiency statement.

(3) Submit recommendations to the ~~state standards task force~~ **education roundtable (IC 20-1-20.5)** for the ~~task force's~~ review.

(e) In fulfilling its responsibilities under subsection (d), the proficiency statements overview committee shall consider proficiency statements developed by:

(1) other states;

(2) national organizations in the United States; and

(3) other countries.

(f) As necessary, the department shall revise and update the educational proficiency statements of subject areas other than those listed in subsection (a)(1) through (a)(4).

(g) The curriculum program of a school in a school corporation must be consistent with the following:

(1) The educational proficiency statements.

(2) The student competencies developed for the Core 40 college preparation curriculum models established under IC 20-10.1-5.7.

SECTION 14. IC 20-10.1-26-4 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: Sec. 4. A pilot program eligible to be funded under this chapter must include all of the following:

(1) School based management models.

(2) Parental involvement strategies.

(3) Innovative integration of curricula, individualized education programs, nonstandard courses, or textbook adoption in the school improvement plan described under ~~IC 20-1-1.2-7(a)(2)(G)~~. **IC 20-1-1.2-7(7).**

(4) Training for participants to become effective members on school/community improvement councils.

SECTION 15. THE FOLLOWING ARE REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999]: IC 20-1-1.2-5; IC 20-10.1-4.1.

SECTION 16. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999] (a) **Before June 30, 2000, the Indiana state board of education (as defined in IC 20-10.1-1-17) shall obtain an independent evaluation of all state education programs and policies for the purpose of:**

(1) **strengthening the state accountability program; and**



(2) aligning the accountability program with state education goals as expressed in the state standards and assessment programs.

(b) A credible, nationally respected organization approved by the budget agency after review by the budget committee shall conduct the evaluation, including the following or any combination of the following:

(1) The Education Commission of the States.

(2) The National Conference of State Legislatures.

(3) The National Governors' Association.

(c) The evaluation must do the following:

(1) Focus on analyzing:

(A) whether state programs and policies are aligned with the state's educational goals; and

(B) whether and to what degree each state program or policy produces the intended results.

(2) Include recommendations and analysis of program funding compared to outcomes.

(3) Include recommendations on how state programs or policies may be improved or restructured.

(d) There is appropriated from the state general fund to the Indiana state board of education eight hundred thousand dollars (\$800,000) for the period beginning July 1, 1999, and ending December 31, 2000, for the evaluation that this SECTION requires.

(e) This SECTION expires December 31, 2000.

SECTION 17. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999] There is appropriated from the state general fund to the department of education two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) for the period beginning July 1, 2000, and ending June 30, 2001, for staff training directed by the superintendent of public instruction and approved by the Indiana state board of education.

SECTION 18. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999] (a) There is appropriated from the state general fund to the Indiana state board of education three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) for the period beginning July 1, 1999, and ending June 30, 2001, for operational expenses, including those for surveys and consultants, of the Indiana state board of education and the education roundtable. However, this appropriation may be spent only with the approval of the governor, the superintendent of public instruction, and the budget agency.

(b) This SECTION expires July 1, 2001.

